

ABSTRACT

To provide a method and mechanism for reliably, quickly and easily cleaning a connecting-end-face of an optical connector. The method and mechanism bring a cleaning stick into contact with the optical connector's connecting-end-face with a constant pushing force to remove dust from the optical connector's connecting-end-face when a main body of the cleaning mechanism is positioned coaxially with the optical connector. The main body of the cleaning mechanism includes an attachment conforming to a shape of the optical connector and its housing, and a mechanism providing a predetermined, constant pushing force and, when pushed into the main body coaxially with the cleaning stick, rotating the cleaning stick. The cleaning stick is made of a material softer than that of an optical fiber, has a shape facilitating the production of an air current by its rotation, and rotates slightly eccentric from a center of the optical connector. The cleaning mechanism can easily be operated with one hand and does not require any operation skill.